(c) Estimated at 59,000 tons of rice; but exact statistics have not been collected.

ശ്രീ. ഇ. ഗോപാലകൃഷ്ണമേനോൻ: ഭക്ഷ്യാല്പാദനത്തിനുവേണ്ടി തിരുവിതാംകൂർ–കൊച്ചി ഗവൺമെൻറ് ധാരാളം പുറംപോക്കു സ്ഥലങ്ങളും ഒഴിപ്പിച്ചിടാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

ശ്രീ. കെ. എം. കോര: അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ഇപ്പോൾ പറയാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല.

ADMISSION TO THE MEDICAL COLLEGE

*171. [9] **Sri. D. Gnanasigamoni:** Will the hon. Minister for Education be pleased to state the principles followed in the matter of admission of students to the Medical College, Trivandrum?

Chief Minister **(Sri. C. Kesavan):** That question was answered so many times. Yet, I shall answer it again if the hon. Member wants.

Merit of the applicants as revealed by academic performance with due reservation for socially and educationally backward communities. Two-third of the number of students were selected on merit and the remaining number was reserved for communities which are educationally and socially backward, in order to give fuller representation to them than they would have got on merit alone.

In determining merit marks were distributed as follows:

80 per cent for academic attainments and 20 per cent for extra-curricular activities. In assessing academic attainments the main consideration was for the marks obtained by the candidates in Part III of the Intermediate examination. Weightage was also given to First Class or Second Class pass in the B.Sc. or M.Sc. Examinations. In assessing merits for extra-curricular activities the order was:

Proficiency over the Inter-University level,
Proficiency in the University,
Proficiency in the Collegiate level,
Interest in games and physical standards.

Sri. D. Gnanasigamoni: In respect of this admission, may I know whether the Government laid down these principles or these principles were laid down by the Selection Committee?

Sri. C. Kesavan: These principles were laid down by Government.

LEMON GRASS

*172. [10] **Sri. M. Varki:** Will the hon. Minister for Education be pleased to state the nature and scope of the Lemon Grass Research Institute recently opened in the State?

Minister for Industries and Labour **(Sri. P. K. Krishnankutty Menon):** A note containing the nature and scope of the Lemon Grass Research Station is placed on the table.*

Sri. M. Varki: Will any research be conducted to improve the process of distillation by copper stills?

Sri. P. K. Krishnankutty Menon: That is also one of the points for consideration during the research.

ശ്രീ. എ. കെ. പപ്പുപിള്ള: അതുടെ ആവശ്യപ്രകാരമാണ് ഈ റിസർച്ച് ഇൻസ്റ്റിറ്റ്യൂട്ട് ഉൽഘാടനം ചെയ്തതെന്നു പറയാമോ?

*See Appendix III, pape 322—323.

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ശ്രീ. പി. കെ. കൃഷ്ണൻകുട്ടി മേനോൻ: ആരുടേയും ആവശ്യപ്രകാരമല്ല. ഉല്പാദനം വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി മാത്രമാണ്.

ശ്രീ. എ. കെ. പാച്ചുപിള്ള: ഇതിലേക്കുവേണ്ടി ഗവൺമെൻറിനെ ഉപദേശിച്ചത് ഏതു വിദഗ്ദ്ധനാണെന്നു പറയാമോ?

ശ്രീ. പി. കെ. കൃഷ്ണൻകുട്ടി മേനോൻ: റിസർച്ച് ഡയറക്ടർ ആണ്.

ശ്രീ. അലക്സാണ്ടർ വാകയിൽ: ഇപ്പോൾ അവിടെ ആരെങ്കിലും കൃഷി നടത്തുന്നുണ്ടോ?

ശ്രീ. പി. കെ. കൃഷ്ണൻകുട്ടിമേനോൻ: ഉണ്ട്.

Dr. M. O. Cheriyan: What is the total value of lemon grass oil exported from this State?

Sri. P. K. Krishnankutty Menon: I claim notice.

Dr. M. O. Cheriyan: May I know for how long this lemon grass cultivation has been going on in this country?

Sri. P. K. Krishnankutty Menon: I don't know exactly how long but I know that it has been going on for a considerable number of years.

PERUMBAVOOR JUNCTION

***173. [11] Sri. M. Varki:** Will the hon. Minister for Public Works be pleased to state.—

(*a*) steps taken by the department in widening the Perumbavoor junction; and

(*b*) whether the work has been actually taken up and if not, why?

Minister for Public Works **(Sri. G. Chandrasekhara Pillai):**

(*a*) An estimate has been framed and work arranged. Land Acquisition is in progress.

(*b*) No. The work will be taken by the P.W.D. when acquisition proceedings are completed.

SOCIETY OF LEMON GRASS GROWERS

***174. [12] Sri. M. Varki:** Will the hon. Minister for Co-operation be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the department has taken initiative in organising a society of the Lemon Grass Growers;

(*b*) whether the department has received any formal application for the registration of such a society;

(*c*) if the answer to (*b*) above is in the affirmative the action taken in the matter?

Minister for Education and Revenue **(Sri. L. M. Pylee):**

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No formal application has been received. But in accordance with the decisions made at a conference of lemon grass cultivators at Kuruppampadi, proposals have been forwarded to Government by the Director of Research for the organisation of a Co-operative Society to safeguard the interests of lemon grass oil producers.

(*c*) These proposals are under the consideration of Government.

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APPENDIX II

(Please see answer to question No. 170(8))

Expenditure on Works Executed under G.M.F. during 1950-51

			Rs.	A.	P.
1.	Reclamation of Grass lands	..	1,24,838	10	3
2.	Well sinking in South Travancore	..	19,931	12	8
3.	Minor Irrigation	..	31,74,710	0	0
4.	Lift Irrigation				
5.	Muvattupuzha River Diversion	..	30,414	0	0
6.	Reclamation of Kari lands	..	3,256	4	11
7.	Kole Water Storage	..	1,45,474	0	0
8.	Construction of earthern dam at Mayyannoor	..	29,280	0	0
9.	Kambalathara Eri	..	43,928	0	0
10.	Vadakkancherri River Diversion	..	4,85,169	0	6
11.	Thicknamcode Channel	..	15,235	10	6
12.	Fertilizers and Manures	..	10,36,637	8	1
13.	Green Manuring	..	4,810	8	10
14.	Punja Dewatering		1,39,343	7	3
15.	Publicity and Propaganda	..	19,540	10	4
16.	Distribution of Agricultural Implements	..	631	11	6
		..	52,73,201	4	10

APPENDIX III

[Please See Answer to question No. 172(10)]

Scope of work of the Lemon Grass Research Station

1. Collection and systematic classification of all the available varieties. The first step in plant breeding work of any crop plant is to have a wide collection. Hence it is necessary to build up a complete collection of all the varieties which occur in the State and other parts of the country. These varieties will be grown in a field under uniform conditions and kept under observation. After collecting all the varieties it is necessary to classify them systematically. The classification will be done on the basis of botanical and other economically important characters. It may be mentioned here that there is a great confusion regarding the correct identification of the different varieties of lemon grass occurring here and hence this has to be thoroughly worked out before commencing selection work.
2. Selection of the best varieties. Single plant selection has to be made from the different varieties based on characters of economic importance. The yield and quality of oil of all these varieties are to be compared and superior varieties to be selected and grown separately.
3. Intervarietal hybridisation and selection from progeny. Hybridisation between selected varieties for further improvement has to be done and the hybrids studied for a number of generations for selecting desirable strains from among them.

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4. It is also necessary to carry out cytological studies to examine the chromosome number and the behaviour of the chromosomes during cell division.

5. Certain cultural experiments like effect of manures on the yield and quality of oil have also to be conducted.

6. Improvement in distillation. Side by side with the breeding work it is necessary to improve the methods of distillation now in vogue in order to maintain the superior quality of our oil and thus retain its value in the world market. The oil is now being extracted by the time-honoured process of hydro-distillation in copper stills. This method is very crude and the quality of oil suffers. Further, the quantity of firewood required for the crude method of distillation is enormous and this is a serious problem especially now, when there is a great scarcity of firewood in our country. With one ton of firewood 15 distillations can be done and the time for the distillation is $2\frac{1}{2}$—3 hours. Experiments have to be conducted to ascertain whether the cost of electrically generated steam would be cheaper than that of firewood.

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